

a monthly zine of news and comments about French SF, horror, fantasy and comics, both fan and pro, published by Michel FERON, 7, Grand-Place, HANNUT (Belgium). This was intended to be March issue, but will be out about April 15, The regular April issue will be out on April 30.

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European cons:

VIENNA CON 1966 5-8.VIII.1966 - c/o Eduard H. Lukschndl, Klosterneuburgerstr. 61/12, WIEN XX (Austria).

MALMO (Sweden) 28-30.V.1966

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If you like SCREEN STARS AU NATUREL, this is for you, as I'll review each month under this title some French magazines which published pictures of horror movies' stars. But I'll mention first the full page in Playboy of Feb., featuring Ann Smyrner ("Rep-tilicus", "Journey to the 7th planet" and, in France "Angelique and the King" from Sergeanne Golon's famous novel). A French "artistic" magazine (STOP, 5, rue d'Artois, 75 PARIS 8ème, France - nr 54: 3 ffr = \$ 0.60) has a 4-pages pictorial reporting showing Barbara Steele au naturel too (Barbara's films include "Black sunday", "The pit and the pendulum", "Castle of blood", "Horrible Dr Hitchcock", "The long hairs of Death" and many others). The pictures in STOP are in black and white only, and perhaps Playboy's pictures are very better, but if you like Barbara (who doesn't ?), this is something you may not miss. In March issue of LUI, the French Playboy, were published pictures of Marie-France Pisier ("The vampire of Dusseldorf", French remake of "M"), Sylvia Sorrente ("Castle of Blood") and 11 pictorial pages about Raquel Welch ("The fantastic voyage" and "One Million B.C."). And don't forget March issue of Playboy and its "Trio with Brio" including Rosanna Podesta ("Horror Castle") and Shirley Ann Field ("Peeping Tom", "Horrors of the Black Museum" and many others, including "Beat Girl" with Christopher Lee). -- Address of LUI: 4, rue Chambiges, 75, Paris 8ème, France -- issue reviewed: nr 27, 2.50 ffr = \$ 0.50.

French SF books and mags of February and March:

"Galaxie" is the French version of "Galaxy": it contains tales translated not only from US Galaxy, but also from "If" and "Worlds of Tomorrow". In February issue of "Galaxie", were to notice: "When time was new" by Robert F. Young, "The moon moth" by Jack Vance and "My object all sublime" by Paul Anderson. R.F. Young's tale won the reader's contest (34 % of the readers pointed it out as the best story of the mag), followed by Jack.

Vance's tale (29 %). In March issue, let's mention the first part of "Starchild" by Williamson and Pohl, "No place for crime" by J.T. McIntosh and the short but very funny "A bad day for vermin" by Keith Laumer.

THIS ISSUE OF "EARLY BIRD" HAS BEEN QUITE GENEROUSLY SENT TO MANY FANS. SO MOST OF YOU, GUYS WITH "EARLY BIRD" IN YOUR HANDS, SEE IT (OR HEAR ABOUT IT) FOR THE FIRST TIME. I JUST HOPE SOME WILL THINK IT'S AN INTERESTING ZINE AND TRY A SUBSCRIPTION. WHY NOT YOU ? OH YES? ONE MORE THING TO SAY TO NEW READERS: I DID LEARN ENGLISH AT SCHOOL SOME YEARS AGO, AND IN BAD CONDITIONS. SO I USED TO THINK I COULDN'T SPEAK, NOR WRITE ENGLISH ... TILL SOME KIND US FANS WROTE ME MY ENGLISH WAS QUITE BETTER THAN THE ENGLISH OF SOME AMERICANS THEY KNEW. BUT I THINK THERE ARE STILL SOME ERRORS IN "EARLY BIRD": PLEASE ACCEPT THEREFOR ALL MY APOLOGIES... AFTER ALL, HOW IS YOUR FRENCH ? (AND IF YOU CAN READ FRENCH AND DON'T LIKE MISTAKES, JUST SUSCRIBE TO THE FRENCH EDITION OF "EARLY BIRD").

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(cont'd from page 1) Jack Vance is becoming very famous in France. Just one year ago, he was completely unknown here. But Galaxie has published three of his stories, and another was published in the best French collection of SF novels ("The Star King", "The Dragon Masters" and "The Moon Moth" in Galaxie, and "The languages of Pao" in the collection "Présence du Futur"); each story became quickly very famous among French fans, and it seems that Vance's fame will still become grater with the publication of his "Adventures of Cugel" in the French mag Fiction (these being quite the first US sword-and-sorcery tales to be translated in French).

The only other French SF mag is "Fiction", the French version of F&SF. It is very famous in France, not only for the tales it contains (translated from US F&SF, but also some French tales) but also for its regular columns (books, movies, painting, stage-plays, comics...). February issue contained, besides some French short stories (including two that were first published in fanzines): G.R. Dickson's "FIDO", Dean McLaughlin's "One hundred days from home", J. Sharkey's "The Glorious Fourth", Ron Goulart's "Nobody starves", Fredric Brown's "Eine kleine Nachtmusik" and Russel Kirk's "Behind the stumps". But the best story was "Wogglebeast" by Edgar Pangborn, who was quite unknown here one year ago too. In March issue of Fiction, a short novel: Anderson's "Admiralty", and some short stories including "Impact with the devil" (Theodore R. Cogswell). "Time trammel" (Miriam Allen Deford) and "The brazen locked room" (Isaac Asimov). Among the books, let's mention "Solaris", a SF novel by Polish writer Stanislas Lem, and an anthology of Algernon Blackwood ("The Pikesstaffe case", "The willows", "The decoy", "May Day Eve", "The old man of visions", "The woman's ghost story" and "The valley of the beasts"). A Blackwood was quite unknown here too. (you may think a lot of guys are unknown here ... and it's true: Tolkien himself is completely unknown here). I just knew "The decoy" because it was filmed by Belgian French-speaking TV in May of 1964, together with 2 other tales (Montague R. James' "Number 13" and G. Langelaan's "The lady from no-where"). But the Big Event in books was the third book published by the CLA (SF Book-Club): Clifford D. Simak's "City" and "Time is the simplest thing". It's the 3rd time "City" is published in France (the first time was in 1952, the second in 1954), and it is known here as one of the most important SF novels in the world, although very few books were printed in 1952 and 1954, and so most fans could not buy it. The second novel is translated in France for the 1st time.

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in our next issue: our regular column SHORT FILMS DEPT with a French picture and the 1st part of A SHORT STORY OF FRENCH COMICDOM. Don't miss it !